

# DECEMBER

at the

## CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

### DECEMBER MEETING

DATE: Wednesday evening, December 14  
TIME: 7:30 p.m. and again at 8:30 p.m.  
PLACE: May Treat Morrison Auditorium  
SUBJECT: "THE VOICE OF THE DESERT"

"To those who listen, the desert speaks of things with an emphasis quite different from that of the shore, the mountains, the valleys or the plains. Whereas they invite action and suggest limitless opportunity, exhaustless resources, the implications and mood of the desert are something different. For one thing the desert is conservative, not radical. It is more likely to provoke awe than to invite conquest."

These words from the volume "The Voice of the Desert" are those of Joseph Wood Krutch who is the narrator-performer in this hour-long documentary in color produced by the National Broadcasting Company and first telecast in 1963. The film is a handsome one which echoes in the eye and mind long after having been seen. The flora and fauna of the desert are examined by a careful, loving camera which seems to conclude, as Henry David Thoreau has it, that "this curious world which we inhabit is more wonderful than it is convenient; more beautiful than it is useful; it is more to be admired than it is to be used."

Dr. Krutch's talents are many. He has been dramatic critic and essayist, and anyone interested in natural history has surely enjoyed one of his many books on the subject.

"What," asks Dr. Krutch, "is the desert good for? Contemplation is perhaps the best answer."

Dr. George Lindsay, Director of the Academy, will introduce this most excellent motion picture.

### MORRISON PLANETARIUM

"OTHER SUNS — OTHER WORLDS" will continue in the Theatre of the Stars through December 17. Beginning December 18:

"THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM", Morrison's traditional Christmas program which returns for the

14th holiday season. Audiences are taken back in time to see the sky over Bethlehem as it was when Christ was born. The sky show will be presented through January 1.

Performances daily at 2:00 p.m. with evening shows, Wednesday through Sunday, at 8:30. Extra shows Saturdays, Sundays and holidays at 3:30. The Planetarium is closed Monday and Tuesday evenings and will also be closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Night, and New Year's Eve. Admission: Adults, \$1.00; Children, 50c.

### MORRISON AUDITORIUM

"EXPEDITION!", an unusual color documentary film photographed by Academy scientists, is shown on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays at 12:45, 2:15, and 3:45 p.m. Admission: Adults, \$1.00; Children, 50c.

### SPECIAL EXHIBITS

From the Academy Collections: "WILD TURKEY", Main Foyer, Hall of Sciences.

"CAMOUFLAGE IN NATURE", eye-catching photographs of some of nature's ingenious masqueraders by the Academy's Curator of Entomology, Dr. Edward S. Ross. Because of its great success, this memorable exhibit will continue indefinitely in Lovell White Hall of Man and Nature.

## NEWS and NOTES . . . . .

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES has announced the appointment of Dr. J. Wyatt Durham as President of the Academy. Dr. Durham succeeds Dr. A. Starker Leopold who has held this distinguished office since October 1959. Concurrent announcement was made of the appointment of Professor Ralph Emerson as Vice President.

The three named educators are all associated with the University of California at Berkeley: Dr. Durham with the Department of Paleontology, Dr. Leopold with the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, and Dr. Emerson with the Department of Botany.

ALSO AT THE same meeting of the Board held October 17, Mr. Eugene D. Bennett who recently retired after many years of service was appointed an Honorary Trustee, and Dr. Norman J. Silberling of the Department of Geology of the School of Earth Sciences at Stanford University was named a Fellow of the Academy.

DR. CARL L. HUBBS, the eminent American zoologist, is the recipient of the highest honor bestowed by the Fellows of the Academy—the Fellows Medal for 1966. Dr. Hubbs, who for many years has been prominently associated with the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at La Jolla, California, is regarded as one of the world's great zoologists and is a member of the National Academy of Sciences. The medal was bestowed by Dr. J. Wyatt Durham, President of the Academy, at the Fellows Banquet held in Simson African Hall on November 2.

Dr. Hubbs' voluminous works have embraced not only the field of ichthyology but those of oceanography, physiography, climatology, herpetology, ornithology, marine mammalogy and human ecology.

The Fellows Medal has only been awarded three times in Academy history. Others honored have been Dr. Ira L. Wiggins and Dr. Laurence M. Klauber.

BY THE TIME THIS NEWSLETTER reaches the light of day, Steinhart Aquarium hopes to have on display a strangeness in the form of a baby, two-headed garter snake which was presented as a gift by Mr. R. F. Souza of Fremont, California. At this writing, both heads are feeding, and only time will tell whether or not the little snake with double trouble will achieve the same international fame enjoyed by Dudley Duplex, the long-lived two-headed kingsnake, who was once in residence at the San Diego Zoo.

### RECENT SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

#### PROCEEDINGS

"Population Biology of the Pacific Sardine (*Sardinops caerulea*).\" Garth I. Murphy. Vol. XXXIV, No. 1. July 26, 1966 .....\$1.50

"*Efferia* Coquillett in America North of Mexico (Diptera: Asilidae).\" J. Wilcox. Vol. XXXIV, No. 2. September 19, 1966 .....\$3.50

#### OCCASIONAL PAPERS

"The Eye of the Giant Clam (*Tridacna maxima*).\" Charles R. Stasek. No. 58. August 19, 1966.....25c

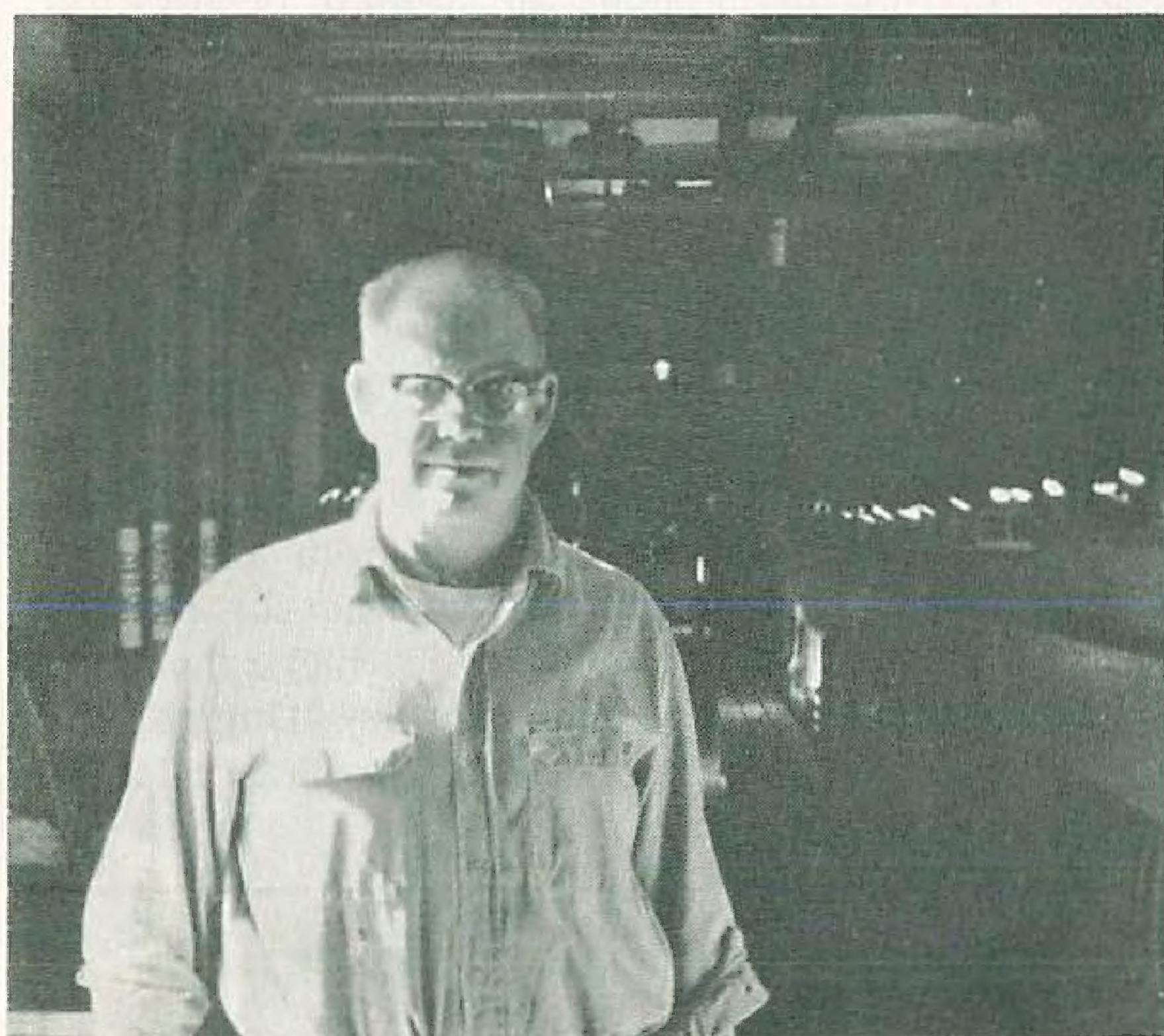
"Moersch's West Central American Molluscan Types with Proposal of a New Name for a Species of *Semele*.\" A. Myra Keen. No. 59. June 30, 1966....\$1.00

"The Cochlear Ducts of *Lanthanotus* and *Anelytropsis* with Remarks on the Familial Relationship Between *Anelytropsis* and *Dibamus*.\" Malcolm R. Miller. No. 60. September 20, 1966 .....50c



TOGETHER WITH WISHING the membership a most joyous holiday season, may we suggest that you consider an Academy membership as an unusual, worthwhile and highly acceptable gift for others in your family or your friends? Also, take advantage of *your* membership by doing some Christmas shopping at one of the several sales desks. The 10% discount on all purchases enjoyed by members should certainly be an added attraction.

## MEET THE STAFF



FREDERICK W. HERMS, Aquarist for Steinhart Aquarium, came to the Academy shortly after having served five and one-half years with the U.S. Army. That was in October 1947. Honorably discharged as a Major, Fred had served as Security Officer and Provost Marshall not only at various places in the United States, but in England, North Africa, and in Italy. His particular military responsibility was for the safety and security of many airdromes. He now holds the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Reserves.

Born in San Francisco, Fred attended local schools and eventually graduated from the University of California at Berkeley with a Bachelor of Arts degree in zoology. Incidental post-depression jobs occupied him before America's entry into World War II.

His particular bailiwick at Steinhart is Battery C which houses, for the most part, fresh-water fishes including native California specimens and catfish, black bass, sunfish and some fresh-water tropicals including the piranhas. Because of the nature of many of his charges, some of the tanks in Battery C have jump screens which keep the finny inhabitants from leaping out of their watery homes. On occasion, Fred assists the collector for the Aquarium. He is also a certified Scuba diver.

For years—in fact since childhood—Fred has been an avid surf fisherman. He enjoys rowing on San Francisco Bay. A strong swimmer, he has, in the past, entered the annual Golden Gate swimming races. His longest swim was from just inside the Golden Gate Bridge to San Francisco's Aquatic Park, a distance of approximately three and one-half miles.

## NEW MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMY

### Regular Membership

Mr. Jack Bergess	Miss Jean Marie Lang
Mr. Vincent R. Bliss	Mr. Donald R. Lyon
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Mr. William E. Griscom	Mrs. Creighton Peet
Mr. M. L. Harris	Mr. Edward F. Towers

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A. B. Cathey	David Lyon
Ron Timmons	

THE CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES  
GOLDEN GATE PARK • SAN FRANCISCO 94118

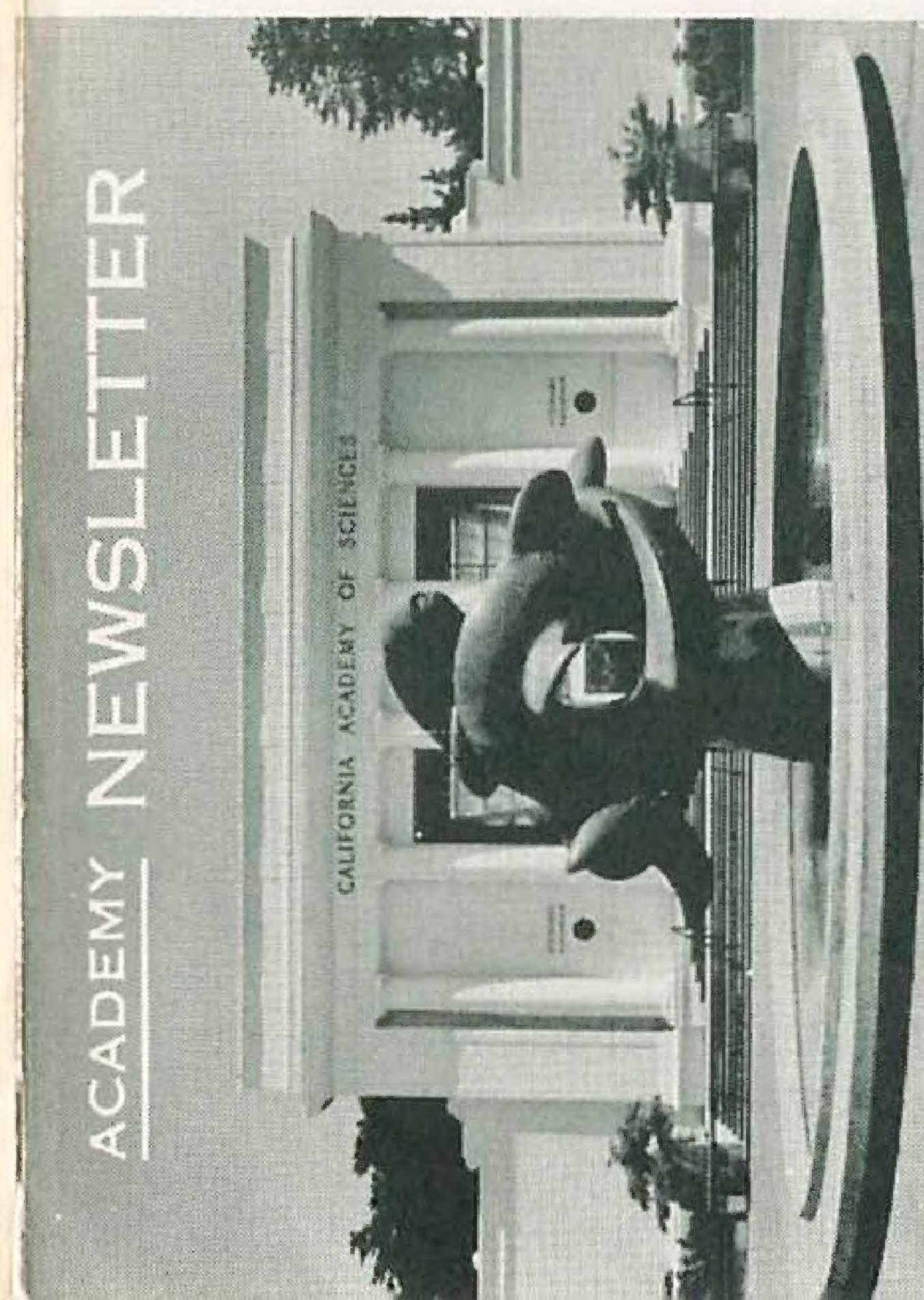
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